

Online Safety Policy



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1. STRATEGY

1.1 Blakedown CE Primary School recognises the potential that technology has to impact on the lives of all citizens increases year on year. This is probably even truer for children and young people, who are generally much more open to developing technologies than many adults. In many areas, technology is transforming the way that children and young people learn and are taught. At home, technology is changing the way children and young people live and the activities in which they choose to partake; these trends are set to continue.

1.2 Our school aims to:

- Have robust processes in place to ensure the online safety of pupils, staff, volunteers and governors
- Identify and support groups of pupils that are potentially at greater risk of harm online than others
- Deliver an effective approach to online safety, which empowers us to protect and educate the whole school community in its use of technology, including mobile and smart technology (which we refer to as 'mobile phones')
- Establish clear mechanisms to identify, intervene and escalate an incident, where appropriate

1.3 The 4 key categories of risk

Our approach to online safety is based on addressing the following categories of risk:

- Content - being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful content, such as pornography, misinformation, disinformation (including fake news), conspiracy theories, racism, misogyny, self-harm, suicide, antisemitism, radicalisation and extremism
- Contact - being subjected to harmful online interaction with other users, such as peer-to-peer pressure, commercial advertising and adults posing as children or young adults with the intention to groom or exploit the user for sexual, criminal, financial or other purposes
- Conduct - personal online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm, such as making, sending and receiving explicit images (e.g. consensual and non-consensual sharing of nudes and semi-nudes and/or pornography), sharing other explicit images and online bullying; and
- Commerce - risks such as online gambling, inappropriate advertising, phishing and/or financial scams

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2. LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE

This policy is based on the Department for Education's (DfE's) statutory safeguarding guidance, [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#), and its advice for schools on:

- [Teaching online safety in schools](#)
- [Preventing and tackling bullying](#) and [cyber-bullying: advice for headteachers and school staff](#)
- [Relationships and sex education \(RSE\) and health education](#)
- [Searching, screening and confiscation](#)

It also refers to the DfE's guidance on [protecting children from radicalisation](#).

It reflects existing legislation, including but not limited to the [Education Act 1996](#) (as amended), the [Education and Inspections Act 2006](#) and the [Equality Act 2010](#). In addition, it reflects the [Education Act 2011](#), which has given teachers stronger powers to tackle cyber-bullying by, if necessary, searching for and deleting inappropriate images or files on pupils' electronic devices where they believe there is a 'good reason' to do so.

The policy takes account of the [Online Safety Act 2023](#), which places duties on online platforms to protect children from harmful content and strengthens protections relation to online abuse, harmful content, grooming, self-harm content and exploitation. It also takes into account the National Curriculum computing programmes of study.

3. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1 The Governing Body

- The governing board has overall responsibility for monitoring this policy and holding the headteacher to account for its implementation.
- The governing board will make sure all staff undergo online safety training as part of child protection and safeguarding training, and ensure staff understand their expectations, roles and responsibilities around filtering and monitoring.
- The governing board will also make sure all staff receive regular online safety updates (via email, e-bulletins and staff meetings), as required and at least annually, to ensure they are continually provided with the relevant skills and knowledge to effectively safeguard children.
- The governing board will co-ordinate regular meetings with appropriate staff to discuss online safety and requirements for training, and monitor online safety logs as provided by the designated safeguarding lead (DSL).
- The governing board will make sure that the school teaches pupils how to keep themselves and others safe, including online.

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3.2 The governing board will make sure that the school has appropriate filtering and monitoring systems in place on school devices and school networks, and will regularly review their effectiveness. The board will review the [DfE's filtering and monitoring standards](#), and discuss with IT staff and service providers what needs to be done to support the school in meeting the standards, which include:

- Identifying and assigning roles and responsibilities to manage filtering and monitoring systems
- Reviewing filtering and monitoring provisions at least annually
- Blocking harmful and inappropriate content without unreasonably impacting teaching and learning
- Having effective monitoring strategies in place that meet the school's safeguarding needs
- The safeguarding governor also oversees online safety.

3.3 All governors will:

- Make sure they have read and understand this policy
- Agree and adhere to the terms on acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet (appendix 3)
- Make sure that online safety is a running and interrelated theme when devising and implementing the whole-school or college approach to safeguarding and related policies and/or procedures
- Make sure that, where necessary, teaching about safeguarding, including online safety, is adapted for vulnerable children, victims of abuse and some pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). This is because of the importance of recognising that a 'one size fits all' approach may not be appropriate for all children in all situations, and a more personalised or contextualised approach may often be more suitable

3.4 The Headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for making sure that staff understand this policy and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school.

3.5 The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

At Blakedown CE Primary School, the headteacher is also the school's designated safeguarding lead (DSL). Their role and the role of the deputy DSL's are set out in our child protection and safeguarding policy, as well as relevant job descriptions.

The DSL takes lead responsibility for online safety in school, in particular:

- Making sure that staff understand this policy and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school

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- Working with the governing board to review this policy annually and make sure the procedures and implementation are updated and reviewed regularly
- Taking the lead on understanding the filtering and monitoring systems and processes in place on school devices and school networks
- Providing governors with assurance that filtering and monitoring systems are working effectively and reviewed regularly
- Working with the ICT manager to make sure the appropriate systems and processes are in place
- Working with the ICT manager and other staff, as necessary, to address any online safety issues or incidents
- Managing all online safety issues and incidents in line with the school's child protection policy
- Responding to safeguarding concerns identified by filtering and monitoring
- Making sure that any online safety incidents are logged (see appendix 5) and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy
- Making sure that any incidents of cyber-bullying are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour policy
- Updating and delivering staff training on online safety (appendix 4 contains a self-audit for staff on online safety training needs)
- Liaising with other agencies and/or external services if necessary
- Providing regular reports on online safety in school to the governing board
- Undertaking annual risk assessments that consider and reflect the risks pupils face
- Providing regular safeguarding and child protection updates, including online safety, to all staff, at least annually, in order to continue to provide them with relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard effectively

3.6 The ICT Manager

At Blakedown CE Primary School, an external company are used to oversee the technical tasks under the direction of the headteacher. The company currently being used is Chestnut Infrastructure Ltd., they are responsible for:

- Putting in place an appropriate level of security protection procedures, such as filtering and monitoring systems on school devices and school networks, which are reviewed and updated at least annually to assess effectiveness and make sure pupils are kept safe from potentially harmful and inappropriate content and contact online while at school, including terrorist and extremist material

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- Making sure that the school's ICT systems are secure and protected against viruses and malware, and that such safety mechanisms are updated regularly
- Conducting a full security check and monitoring the school's ICT systems on a weekly basis
- Blocking access to potentially dangerous sites and, where possible, preventing the downloading of potentially dangerous files

3.7 All Staff & Volunteers

All staff, including contractors and agency staff, and volunteers are responsible for:

- Maintaining an understanding of this policy
- Implementing this policy consistently
- Agreeing and adhering to the terms on acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet (appendix 3), and making sure that pupils follow the school's terms on acceptable use (appendices 1 and 2)
- Knowing that the headteacher/DSL is responsible for the filtering and monitoring systems and processes, and being aware of how to report any incidents of those systems or processes failing by using the reporting form and returning it to the headteacher
- Following the correct procedures by contacting both the headteacher and Chestnut Infrastructure Ltd., if they need to bypass the filtering and monitoring systems for educational purposes
- Working with the DSL to make sure that any online safety incidents are logged (see appendix 5) and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy
- Making sure that any incidents of cyber-bullying are dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour policy
- Responding appropriately to all reports and concerns about sexual violence and/or harassment, both online and offline, and maintaining an attitude of 'it could happen here'

3.8 Parents/Carers

Parents/carers are expected to:

- Notify a member of staff or the headteacher of any concerns or queries regarding this policy
- Make sure that their child has read, understood and agreed to the terms on acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and internet (appendices 1 and 2)
- Parents/carers can seek further guidance on keeping children safe online from the following organisations and websites:
- What are the issues? - [UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

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- Help and advice for parents/carers - [Childnet](#)
- Parents and carers resource sheet - [Childnet](#)

3.9 Visitors & Members of the Community

Visitors and members of the community who use the school's ICT systems or internet will be made aware of this policy and expected to read and follow it. If appropriate, they will be expected to agree to the terms on acceptable use (appendix 3).

4. EDUCATING PUPILS ABOUT ONLINE SAFETY

Pupils will be taught about online safety as part of the curriculum.

All schools have to teach:

- [Relationships education and health education](#) in primary schools
- [Relationships and sex education and health education](#) in secondary schools

In **Key Stage (KS) 1**, pupils will be taught to:

- Use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private
- Identify where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact on the internet or other online technologies

Pupils in **Key Stage (KS) 2** will be taught to:

- Use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly
- Recognise acceptable and unacceptable behaviour
- Identify a range of ways to report concerns about content and contact
- Be discerning in evaluating digital content
- identify misinformation, disinformation, manipulated content and AI-generated material.
- about digital footprints, online reputation and the long-term impact of sharing information online.

By the **end of primary school**, pupils will know:

- That the internet can be a negative place where online abuse, trolling, bullying and harassment can take place, which can have a negative impact on mental health
- That people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not
- That the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to-face relationships, including the importance of respect for others, including when we are anonymous
- The rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them

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- How to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met
- How information and data are shared and used online
- How to be a discerning consumer of information online including understanding that information, including that from search engines, is ranked, selected and targeted
- What sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context)
- How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know
- The benefits of rationing time spent online, the risks of excessive time spent on electronic devices and the impact of positive and negative content online on their own and others' mental and physical wellbeing
- Why social media, computer games and online gaming have age restrictions and how to manage common difficulties encountered online
- How to consider the effect of their online actions on others and know how to recognise and display respectful behaviour online and the importance of keeping personal information private
- Where and how to report concerns and get support with issues online

The safe use of social media and the internet will also be covered in other subjects where relevant. Where necessary, teaching about safeguarding, including online safety, will be adapted for vulnerable children, victims of abuse and some pupils with SEND.

5. EDUCATING PARENTS/CARERS ABOUT ONLINE SAFETY

The school will raise parents/carers' awareness of internet safety in letters or other communications home, and in information via our website or Facebook page. This policy will also be shared with parents/carers.

Online safety will also be covered during parents' evenings.

The school will let parents/carers know:

- What systems the school uses to filter and monitor online use
- What their children are being asked to do online, including the sites they will be asked to access and who from the school (if anyone) their child will be interacting with online

If parents/carers have any queries or concerns in relation to online safety, these should be raised in the first instance with the headteacher/DSL or one of the deputy DSL's.

Concerns or queries about this policy can be raised with any member of staff or the headteacher.

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6. CYBER-BULLYING

6.1 Definition

Cyber-bullying takes place online, such as through social networking sites, messaging apps or gaming sites. Like other forms of bullying, it is the repetitive, intentional harming of 1 person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. (See also the school behaviour policy.)

6.2 Preventing and Addressing Cyber-Bullying

- To help prevent cyber-bullying, we will ensure that pupils understand what it is and what to do if they become aware of it happening to them or others. We will ensure that pupils know how they can report any incidents and encourage them to do so, including where they are a witness rather than the victim.
- The school will actively discuss cyber-bullying with pupils, explaining the reasons why it occurs, the forms it may take and what the consequences can be.
- Teaching staff are also encouraged to find opportunities to use aspects of the curriculum to cover cyber-bullying. This includes personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education, and other subjects where appropriate.
- All staff and governors receive training on cyber-bullying, its impact and ways to support pupils, as part of safeguarding training (see section 11 for more detail).
- The school also sends information/leaflets on cyber-bullying to parents/carers so they are aware of the signs, how to report it and how they can support children who may be affected.
- In relation to a specific incident of cyber-bullying, the school will follow the processes set out in the school behaviour policy. Where illegal, inappropriate or harmful material has been spread among pupils, the school will use all reasonable endeavours to ensure the incident is contained.
- The DSL will report the incident and provide the relevant material to the police as soon as is reasonably practicable, if they have reasonable grounds to suspect that possessing that material is illegal. They will also work with external services if it is deemed necessary to do so.

6.3 Examining Electronic Devices

The headteacher, and any member of staff authorised to do so by the headteacher can carry out a search and confiscate any electronic device that they have reasonable grounds for suspecting:

- Poses a risk to staff or pupils, and/or
- Is identified in the school rules as a banned item for which a search can be carried out, and/or
- Is evidence in relation to an offence

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Before a search, if the authorised staff member is satisfied that they have reasonable grounds for suspecting any of the above, they will also:

- Make an assessment of how urgent the search is and consider the risk to other pupils and staff. If the search is not urgent, they will seek advice from the headteacher or other senior leader
- Explain to the pupil why they are being searched, and how the search will happen; and give them the opportunity to ask questions about it
- Seek the pupil's co-operation

Authorised staff members may examine, and in exceptional circumstances erase, any data or files on an electronic device that they have confiscated where they believe there is a 'good reason' to do so.

When deciding whether there is a 'good reason' to examine data or files on an electronic device, the staff member should reasonably suspect that the device has, or could be used to:

- Cause harm, and/or
- Undermine the safe environment of the school or disrupt teaching, and/or
- Commit an offence

If inappropriate material is found on the device, it is up to the headteacher / other member of the senior leadership team to decide on a suitable response. If there are images, data or files on the device that staff reasonably suspect are likely to put a person at risk, they will first consider the appropriate safeguarding response.

When deciding whether there is a good reason to erase data or files from a device, staff members will consider if the material may constitute evidence relating to a suspected offence. In these instances, they will not delete the material, and the device will be handed to the police as soon as reasonably practicable. If the material is not suspected to be evidence in relation to an offence, staff members may delete it if:

- They reasonably suspect that its continued existence is likely to cause harm to any person, and/or
- The pupil and/or the parent/carer refuses to delete the material themselves

If a staff member suspects a device may contain an indecent image of a child (also known as a nude or semi-nude image), they will:

- Not view the image
- Confiscate the device and report the incident to the DSL (or equivalent) immediately, who will decide what to do next. The DSL will make the decision in line with the DfE's latest guidance on [screening, searching and confiscation](#) and the UK Council for Internet Safety

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(UKCIS) guidance on [sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people](#)

Any searching of pupils will be carried out in line with:

- The DfE's latest guidance on [searching, screening and confiscation](#)
- UKCIS guidance on [sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people](#)
- Any complaints about searching for or deleting inappropriate images or files on pupils' electronic devices will be dealt with through the school complaints procedure.

6.4 Artificial intelligence (AI)

Generative AI tools are now widespread and easy to access. Staff, pupils and parents/carers may be familiar with generative chatbots such as ChatGPT and Google Gemini.

Blakedown CE Primary recognises that AI has many uses to help pupils learn, but may also have the potential to be used to bully others. For example, in the form of 'deepfakes', where AI is used to create images, audio or video hoaxes that look real. This includes deepfake pornography: pornographic content created using AI to include someone's likeness.

Blakedown CE Primary will treat any use of AI to bully pupils very seriously, in line with our anti-bullying/behaviour policy.

Staff should be aware of the risks of using AI tools while they are still being developed and should carry out a risk assessment where new AI tools are being used by the school, and where existing AI tools are used in cases which may pose a risk to all individuals that may be affected by them, including, but not limited to, pupils and staff.

The school will ensure that any use of generative AI by staff or pupils is risk-assessed and age-appropriate. Staff must not enter personal or confidential pupil information into public AI systems without approval and appropriate safeguards.

Online safety education will include helping pupils understand AI-generated content, deepfakes, misinformation and manipulated media.

7. ACCEPTABLE USE OF THE INTERNET IN SCHOOL

All pupils, parents/carers, staff, volunteers and governors are expected to sign an agreement regarding the acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet (appendices 1 to 3). Visitors will be expected to read and agree to the school's terms on acceptable use, if relevant.

Use of the school's internet must be for educational purposes only, or for the purpose of fulfilling the duties of an individual's role.

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We will monitor the websites visited by pupils, staff, volunteers, governors and visitors (where relevant) to ensure they comply with the above and restrict access through filtering systems where appropriate.

More information is set out in the acceptable use agreements in appendices 1 to 3.

Filtering and monitoring arrangements will be reviewed using the Department for Education self-assessment tools and risk assessment processes.

The DSL, headteacher and IT provider will jointly review filtering reports and safeguarding alerts.

8. PUPILS USING MOBILE DEVICES IN SCHOOL

Pupils at Blakedown CE Primary School are not allowed to bring mobile devices to school unless they are in Year 6 and are allowed to walk home. If this is the case, pupils must turn off their device before entering the school grounds and hand their phone into the person on the entrance door and collect them from their class teacher at the end of the day. Their device should not be turned on again until they have left school grounds.

Any breach of these rules may trigger disciplinary action in line with the behaviour policy. There is a separate policy regarding the use of mobile phones and smart devices.

The school's online safety expectations apply whenever pupils are using school-provided devices, accounts or learning platforms, whether on school premises or at home.

9. STAFF USING WORK DEVICES OUTSIDE SCHOOL

All staff members will take appropriate steps to ensure their devices remain secure. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Keeping the device password-protected - strong passwords can be made up of 3 random words, in combination with numbers and special characters if required, or generated by a password manager
- Work devices must be used solely for work activities
- Work devices must not be left in a vehicle on show
- Not sharing the device among family or friends
- Ensuring the device is logged on in school at least every two weeks to ensure that updates are installed regularly to keep operating systems and anti-virus and anti-spyware software up to date.
- Staff members must not use the device in any way that would violate the school's terms of acceptable use, as set out in appendix 3.
- Staff must not communicate with pupils through personal social media accounts, messaging applications or private email accounts.

- If staff have any concerns over the security of their device, they must seek advice from the headteacher or with Chestnut Infrastructure Ltd.

10. HOW THE SCHOOL WILL RESPOND TO ISSUES OF MISUSE

Where a pupil misuses the school's ICT systems or internet, we will follow the procedures set out in our behaviour and acceptable use policies. The action taken will depend on the individual circumstances, nature and seriousness of the specific incident, and will be proportionate.

Where a staff member misuses the school's ICT systems or the internet, or misuses a personal device where the action constitutes misconduct, the matter will be dealt with in accordance with the staff code of conduct. The action taken will depend on the individual circumstances, nature and seriousness of the specific incident.

The school will consider whether incidents that involve illegal activity or content, or otherwise serious incidents, should be reported to the police.

11. TRAINING

11.1 Staff, governors and volunteers

All new staff members will receive training, as part of their induction, on safe internet use and online safeguarding issues, including cyber-bullying and the risks of online radicalisation.

All staff members will receive refresher training at least once each academic year as part of safeguarding training, as well as relevant updates as required.

By way of this training, all staff will be made aware that:

- Technology is a significant component in many safeguarding and wellbeing issues, and that children are at risk of online abuse
- Children can abuse their peers online through:
 - Abusive, threatening, harassing and misogynistic messages
 - Non-consensual sharing of indecent nude and semi-nude images and/or videos, especially around chat groups
 - Sharing of abusive images and pornography, to those who don't want to receive such content
- Physical abuse, sexual violence and initiation/hazing type violence can all contain an online element

Training will also help staff:

- Develop better awareness to assist in spotting the signs and symptoms of online abuse
- Develop the ability to ensure pupils can recognise dangers and risks in online activity and can weigh up the risks

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- Develop the ability to influence pupils to make the healthiest long-term choices and keep them safe from harm in the short term

The DSL and deputy DSL's will undertake child protection and safeguarding training, which will include online safety, at least every 2 years. They will also update their knowledge and skills on the subject of online safety at regular intervals, and at least annually.

Governors will receive training on safe internet use and online safeguarding issues as part of their safeguarding training.

Volunteers will receive appropriate training and updates, if applicable.

More information about safeguarding training is set out in our child protection and safeguarding policy.

11.2 Pupils

All pupils will receive age-appropriate training on safe internet use, including:

- Methods that hackers use to trick people into disclosing personal information
- Password security
- Social engineering
- The risks of removable storage devices (e.g. USBs)
- Multi-factor authentication
- How to report a cyber incident or attack
- How to report a personal data breach

Pupils will also receive age-appropriate training on safeguarding issues such as cyberbullying and the risks of online radicalisation.

12. MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

The DSL's log behaviour and safeguarding issues related to online safety. An incident report log can be found in appendix 5.

This policy will be reviewed every year by the headteacher and computing lead. At every review, the policy will be shared with the governing board. The review (such as the one available [here](#)) will be supported by an annual risk assessment that considers and reflects the risks pupils face online. This is important because technology, and the risks and harms related to it, evolve and change rapidly.

13. LINKS WITH OTHER POLICIES

This online safety policy is linked to our:

- Child protection and safeguarding policy
- Behaviour policy

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- Staff disciplinary procedures
- Data protection policy and privacy notices
- Complaints procedure
- ICT and internet acceptable use policy



EYF5 & KS1 ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT - PUPILS & PARENTS/CARERS

**ACCEPTABLE USE OF THE SCHOOL'S ICT SYSTEMS AND INTERNET:
AGREEMENT FOR PUPILS AND PARENTS/CARERS**

Name of pupil:

When I use the school's ICT systems (like computers) and get onto the internet in school I will:

- Ask a teacher or adult if I can do so before using them
- Only use websites that a teacher or adult has told me or allowed me to use
- Tell my teacher immediately if:
 - I select a website by mistake
 - I receive messages from people I don't know
 - I find anything that may upset or harm me or my friends
- Use school computers for schoolwork only
- Be kind to others and not upset or be rude to them
- Look after the school ICT equipment and tell a teacher straight away if something is broken or not working properly
- Only use the username and password I have been given
- Try my hardest to remember my username and password
- Never share my password with anyone, including my friends
- Never give my personal information (my name, address or telephone numbers) to anyone without the permission of my teacher or parent/carer
- Save my work on the school network
- Check with my teacher before I print anything
- Log off or shut down a computer or other device when I have finished using it

I agree that the school will monitor the websites I visit and that there will be consequences if I don't follow the rules.

Signed (pupil):

Date:

Parent/carer agreement: I agree that my child can use the school's ICT systems and internet when appropriately supervised by a member of school staff. I agree to the conditions set out above for pupils using the school's ICT systems and internet, and will make sure my child understands these.

Signed (parent/carer):

Date:



KS2 ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT – PUPILS & PARENTS/CARERS

ACCEPTABLE USE OF THE SCHOOL'S ICT SYSTEMS AND INTERNET: AGREEMENT FOR PUPILS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Name of pupil:

I will read and follow the rules in the acceptable use agreement policy.

When I use the school's ICT systems (like computers) and get onto the internet in school I will:

- Always use the school's ICT systems and the internet responsibly and for educational purposes only
- Only use them when a teacher is present, or with a teacher's permission
- Keep my usernames and passwords safe and not share these with others
- Keep my private information safe at all times and not give my name, address or telephone number to anyone without the permission of my teacher or parent/carer
- Tell a teacher (or sensible adult) immediately if I find any material that might upset, distress or harm me or others
- Always log off or shut down a computer when I've finished working on it

I will not:

- Access any inappropriate websites including: social networking sites, chat rooms and gaming sites unless my teacher has expressly allowed this as part of a learning activity
- Open any attachments in emails, or follow any links in emails, without first checking with a teacher
- Use any inappropriate language when communicating online, including in emails
- Create, link to or post any material that is pornographic, offensive, obscene or otherwise inappropriate
- Log in to the school's network using someone else's details
- Arrange to meet anyone offline without first consulting my parent/carer, or without adult supervision

If I bring a personal mobile phone or other personal electronic device into school:

- I will turn it off when I enter the school grounds and hand it in immediately to my teacher. I will not attempt to use it during lessons, clubs or other activities organised by the school, without a teacher's permission.

I agree that the school will monitor the websites I visit and that there will be consequences if I don't follow the rules.

Signed (pupil):

Date:

Parent/carer's agreement: I agree that my child can use the school's ICT systems and internet when appropriately supervised by a member of school staff. I agree to the conditions set out above for pupils using the school's ICT systems and internet, and for using personal electronic devices in school, and will make sure my child understands these.

Signed (parent/carer):

Date:



**ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT - STAFF,
GOVERNORS, VOLUNTEERS & VISITORS**

**ACCEPTABLE USE OF THE SCHOOL'S ICT SYSTEMS AND INTERNET:
AGREEMENT FOR STAFF, GOVERNORS, VOLUNTEERS AND VISITORS**

Name of staff member/governor/volunteer/visitor:

When using the school's ICT systems and accessing the internet in school, or outside school on a work device (if applicable), I will not:

- Access, or attempt to access inappropriate material, including but not limited to material of a violent, criminal or pornographic nature (or create, share, link to or send such material)
- Use them in any way that could harm the school's reputation
- Access social networking sites or chat rooms
- Use any improper language when communicating online, including in emails or other messaging services
- Install any unauthorised software, or connect unauthorised hardware or devices to the school's network
- Share my password with others or log in to the school's network using someone else's details
- Take photographs of pupils without checking with teachers first
- Share confidential information about the school, its pupils or staff, or other members of the community
- Access, modify or share data I am not authorised to access, modify or share
- Promote private businesses, unless that business is directly related to the school

I will only use the school's ICT systems and access the internet in school, or outside school on a work device, for educational purposes or for the purpose of fulfilling the duties of my role.

I agree that the school will monitor the websites I visit and my use of the school's ICT facilities and systems.

I will take all reasonable steps to ensure that work devices are secure and password-protected when using them outside school, and keep all data securely stored in accordance with this policy and the school's data protection policy.

I will let the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and ICT manager know if a pupil informs me they have found any material that might upset, distress or harm them or others, and will also do so if I encounter any such material.

I will always use the school's ICT systems and internet responsibly, and ensure that pupils in my care do so too.

Signed (staff member/governor/volunteer/visitor):

Date:



**ONLINE SAFETY TRAINING NEEDS - SELF
AUDIT FOR STAFF**

ONLINE SAFETY TRAINING NEEDS AUDIT

Name of staff member/volunteer:	Date:
Question	Yes/No (add comments if necessary)
Do you know the name of the person who has lead responsibility for online safety in school?	
Are you aware of the ways pupils can abuse their peers online?	
Do you know what you must do if a pupil approaches you with a concern or issue?	
Are you familiar with the school's acceptable use agreement for staff, volunteers, governors and visitors?	
Are you familiar with the school's acceptable use agreement for pupils and parents/carers?	
Are you familiar with the filtering and monitoring systems on the school's devices and networks?	
Do you understand your role and responsibilities in relation to filtering and monitoring?	
Do you regularly change your password for accessing the school's ICT systems?	
Are you familiar with the school's approach to tackling cyber-bullying?	
Are there any areas of online safety in which you would like training/further training?	



ONLINE SAFETY INCIDENT REPORT LOG

ONLINE SAFETY INCIDENT LOG				
Date	Where the incident took place	Description of the incident	Action taken	Name and signature of staff member recording the incident

GUIDANCE TO SUPPORT THE SAFE & APPROPRIATE USE OF IMAGES IN SCHOOLS & SETTINGS

Based on:

- UK GDPR
- Data Protection Act 2018
- KSCIE 2026
- AI/Deepfake Image Guidance

Introduction

The school recognises the emerging risks associated with AI-generated and manipulated images. Any misuse of digital images, including deepfakes or altered images of pupils or staff, will be treated as a safeguarding concern.

There are many occasions when staff and parents will want to take photographs of children. Such occasions include everything from observation, evidence, assessment and curricular purposes in the classroom to award ceremonies, performances, trips and sporting events as part of the extended activities programme. The intention of this policy is to set out clear guidelines which will balance the use of photography as a source of pleasure and pride with the need to safeguard children and protect the rights of the individual.

The photography policy sets out to ensure that:

- Photographs are only used for the purpose intended
- Settings use of photographs is facilitated
- Personal family photography is allowed where possible
- Individual rights are respected and child protection issues considered
- Parents/carers and children are given the right to opt out.

Definitions

The term 'images' refers to photographic prints or slides, digital images, videos or moving images.

Images may be distributed via print, DVDs, the internet or other technologies.

The term ' settings' refers to Early Years Settings, Maintained Schools, Independent Schools, Free Schools, Academies, Short Stay Schools, Colleges of Further Education, out of school provision, childminders and Children's Centres.

Safeguarding Children

The welfare and protection of our children is paramount and consideration should always be given to whether the use of photography will place our children at risk. Images may be used to harm children, for example as a preliminary to 'grooming' or by displaying them inappropriately on the internet, particularly social networking sites.

Online Safety Policy

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For this reason consent is always sought when photographing children and additional consideration given to photographing vulnerable children, particularly Looked After Children or those in domestic abuse situations. Consent must be sought from those with parental responsibility (this may include the Local Authority in the case of Looked After Children).

Data Protection

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) maintains a public register which includes the name and address of 'data controllers' and details about the types of personal information they process.

'Notification' is the process by which each data controller's details are added to the register. All settings need to ensure they are registered with the Information Commissioner's Office every year.

Failure to notify the ICO is a criminal offence. Notification is necessary if settings are processing personal information. This includes taking photographs of the children using a digital camera.

Personal data (including photos) held by settings must be included in the setting's notification. Further information on data protection as well as details on how to notify can be found at:

http://www.ico.gov.uk/for_organisations/data_protection/notification.aspx

In October 2007, the Information Commissioner's Office issued the following advice:

"The Data Protection Act is unlikely to apply in many cases where photographs are taken in schools and other educational institutions. Fear of breaching the provisions of the Act should not be wrongly used to stop people taking photographs or videos which provide many with much pleasure. Where the Act does apply, a common sense approach suggests that if the photographer asks for permission to take a photograph, this will usually be enough to ensure compliance.

- *Photos taken for official school use may be covered by the act and pupils and students should be advised why they are being taken.*
- *Photos taken purely for personal use are exempt from the Act."*

Please note that although notification is mandatory in most cases the data protection guidance within this document is 'recommended guidance' and settings must take individual responsibility for their own data protection issues in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

Parental Consent

On admission of a child to a setting, parents/carers will be asked to complete a consent form indicating their agreement or objection regarding the use of images of their child. Consent should be discussed with the child, once they are old enough to understand, and the child also asked to sign the consent form. Parents/children should be asked to complete the separate WCC consent form for images that have been taken for the purpose of LA publicity.

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A list of children for whom consent has been refused will be maintained by the setting and every effort will be made by staff not to include these children in photographs or video footage. The list will be updated on a regular basis¹.

The parent/carer should be asked to confirm, in writing, that they will inform the setting if they no longer wish images of their child to be used for any reason. They need to be made aware that once images are in circulation or have been published, it may be impossible to remove them, although every effort will be made to ensure they are not used in future publications.

Setting Photography

Photographic and/or video images taken by staff may be used for curricular and/or extra-curricular activities, displays, on the setting website, in the setting prospectus or newsletter, as evidence of the child's development or as part of publicity in the media. Staff will ensure that:

- They are clear about the purpose of the activity and what will happen to the images when the activity is concluded.
- They always use setting equipment for taking images.
- They never record images using their personal camera, mobile phone or video equipment or for their own personal use.
- They will never photograph children in a state of undress, for example whilst changing for PE or a performance.
- They will report any concerns about inappropriate or intrusive photographs found to the Senior Designated Person following the setting's safeguarding procedures
- They have parental permission to take; store and/or display the images.
- Childminding settings should pay particular attention to the safe storage of digital imagery if using their personal equipment to record and store images

Storage of Images

Photographs retained in a setting will not be used other than for their original purpose, unless permission is obtained from the subject.

Images should always be stored securely and password protected.

Photographs should be destroyed or deleted from databases once they are no longer required for the purpose for which they were taken. Photographs taken for publicity and promotional purposes should be retained for a maximum of two years. Photographs contributing to the history of the setting, its children, activities or the community, may be retained indefinitely.

For schools, further information on storage and security can be found in the LA guidance *Schools System and Data Security*.

Parental Photography

In many cases, photographs taken at setting events form an important part of family albums.

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Everything possible will be done to ensure that this tradition continues. Parents are welcome to take photographs of their own children at award ceremonies, setting concerts/shows and sporting events, with the permission of the Headteacher/Senior Manager or Childminder. However, care must be taken not to interfere with the smooth running of the event, breach commercial copyright laws or compromise health and safety. Parents/carers will ensure that:

- They will respect the setting's decision to prohibit photography of certain children or a particular event.
- Any images taken are for personal use only.
- Images including children **other than their own, must not be sold or put on the internet**; if they are, Data Protection legislation may be contravened and they will be asked to remove them.

1 The LA recommends on admission to a setting with at least annual updates

- They will not use any images of children so as to cause offence or harm.

The Use of Cameras and Video Recordings by Children

From time to time, children may be given the opportunity to use setting equipment to take photographs and/or video footage as part of a curricular or extra-curricular activity.

Children should not use personal equipment in the setting for the purpose of taking photographs or video footage, unless being used as a learning resource in line with the setting's Acceptable Use policy.

This includes the use of personal Smartphones. The only exception to this is on a setting trip or visit where children may be allowed to take photographs for their own personal use.

It should be made clear that these images should be taken responsibly and not used to upset any other child

The use of images to bully or intimidate, including publishing photographs without permission on the internet, will be dealt with in line with the setting's behaviour and anti-bullying policies and may be viewed as a criminal offence.

Display of photographs

It is perfectly acceptable to display photographs of children in the setting environment with their names attached for the purpose of celebrating progress and achievement or assessment purposes.

However, all settings must give consideration to displays when rooms are available for other purposes.

Publicity

Press

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On occasions, the media are asked to cover setting events or to highlight children's successes. This is an important part of celebrating achievement and informing the public of educational initiatives. The media operate under their own Code of Practice. Parents will be informed by the setting in advance if their children are likely to appear in the press. Local newspaper titles may share their images with other titles within the same syndicate. Any child whose parents have withheld permission, will not be photographed by the media.

Setting Publicity

Photographs of children's activities and achievements may be published in the setting newsletter or prospectus and posted on the setting website. Names of individual children will not be attached to photographs and no contact details will be published. Where photographic permission has been withheld, photographs will not be published.

Setting Photographer

Class and individual or group photographs are often an annual event. Parents will be notified in advance of the photographer's visit and will be sent copies of photographs and given the option to purchase them. Copyright on all such photographs is retained by the photographer.

Links

This guidance should link specifically to the setting's Data Security Policy, Online safety Policy, Acceptable Use Policy, Password Policy, Staff Laptop Policy, Safeguarding Children Policy and to the LA guidance 'Schools System and Data Security'.

Further Guidance

Further related guidance can be found in the Becta series of documents entitled *Good practice in information handling in schools*. They are:

- 1 Keeping data secure, safe and legal
- 2 Impact levels and labelling
- 3 Audit logging and incident handling
- 4 Data encryption
- 5 Secure remote access

and also in *AUPs in context: Establishing safe and responsible online behaviours*

These documents can be found on the Department for Education website (www.education.gov.uk).

LOANED DEVICE USER AGREEMENT

Staff member:

Date:

Device Make:

Model :

Serial Number :

The laptop/device detailed above is loaned to _____ for the duration of their employment at Blakedown CE Primary School subject to the following terms and the school Acceptable Use Agreement.

The iPad/mobile device remains the property of the School and must be returned at the end of the contracted period of employment with the School and, if required, during a planned or prolonged absence.

1. The laptop/device is for the **work related** use of the named member of staff to which it is issued.
2. Only software/apps installed at the time of issue or software/apps purchased by and licensed to Blakedown CE Primary School may be installed on the machine.
3. The laptop/device remains the property of the School throughout the loan period, however the member of staff to which it is issued **will** be required to take responsibility for its care and safe keeping.
4. If left unattended the laptop/device must be securely stored. It must **never** be left unattended even for a short period in a car, including in a locked boot.
5. Due regard must be given to the security of the computer if using other forms of transport.
6. In order to ensure the schools compliance with the Data Protection Act and to avoid breaches of confidentiality, under no circumstances should students be allowed to use the staff laptops/devices if not directly supervised by a member of staff. Staff should also be cautious when using the computer away from school particularly with files which may contain personal student data, including images.
7. The equipment must be charged/logged into at school at least once per week to ensure updates and new software are distributed. Staff should record this action in the log provided with the syncing cabinet.
8. The laptop/device will be recalled from time to time for routine maintenance / upgrade and monitoring.

Prohibited Uses

Images of other people, including children, may only be made with the permission of the person, or parents of the child, in the photograph.

The laptop/device is a professional tool designed to enhance classroom practice. It is not for personal use, e.g. Facebook or other social networking sites or on-

Online Safety Policy

Policy Number 1.10

line shopping, and should remain in school unless permission is sought from the ICT Co-ordinator or Head Teacher.

Lost, Damaged or Stolen laptop/device

If the laptop/device is lost, stolen or damaged, the ICT Co-ordinator or Head Teacher must be informed immediately and a charge may be levied depending on the circumstances.

I have read and agree to the terms and conditions in this agreement.

I undertake to take due care of the laptop or device and return it immediately upon request.

Signed: _____

Date: _____